

ELGIN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 23

1500 BIRCH STREET, P.O. BOX 68, ELGIN, OREGON 97827 (503) 437-1211

January 11, 1993

Joe Garlitz
City Recorder
Elgin, Oregon 97827

Dear Joe,

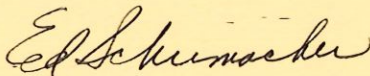
I received your letter seeking input about what projects I would like to see the city promote or plan for as we work to improve the livability of Elgin. I will not be able to attend the meeting on the 19th, as I have a board meeting that night, but am willing to visit with members of the board if they are interested.

My greatest concern is based on recent research indicating factors that influence young people to become or not become involved in Drug/Alcohol and other deterrent behaviors. Research indicates that in communities of all sizes, when there is a sense of identity and caring in the community, abusive behaviors decline. For example, when vandalism is quickly repaired is an example of a community with identity and pride. I support activities by the City Council that will provide an Elgin that demonstrates this type of pride. I realize that we will have to change some attitudes in our community to make this a reality; however, I do believe that the city needs to take a leadership role in this area. I also believe that the school is equally responsible.

Such projects could include protecting others rights to live in a clean environment over another's rights to keep their trash and clutter readily apparent to young and old alike. Streets that are paved with curbs and sidewalks talk of a communities willingness to promote pedestrian safety with their own resources. Promoting activities that encourage neighbors to get to know each other and become active members of our community are needed to give us more of a sense of being one community rather than a collection of complete individuals.

I will repeat that I believe the school has an equal responsibility, and I am interested in how we might work cooperatively. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Ed Schumacher

"Home of the Elgin High School Huskies  and the Stella Mayfield Puppies"

